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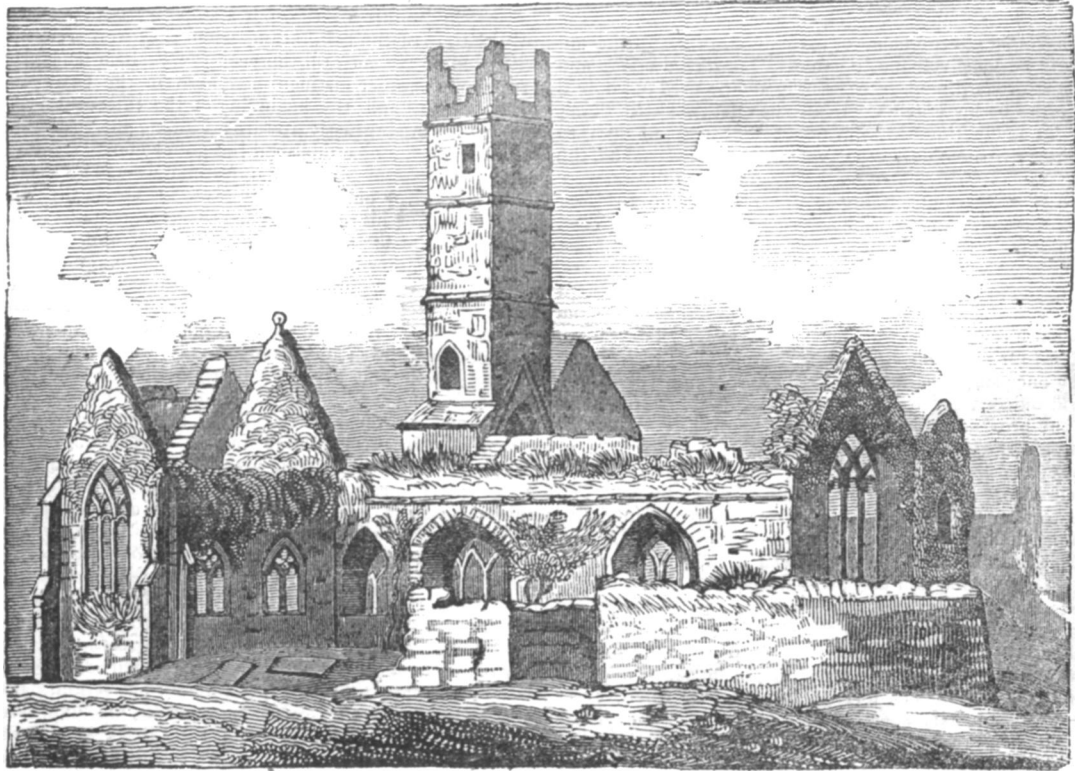
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CONDUCTED BY P. DIXON HARDY, M.R.I.A.

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QUIN ABBEY.

Quin, called also Quint or Quinchy, is situated in the barony of Bunratty, about five miles east of Ennis. An abbey was founded here at an early period, which was consumed by fire, A. D. 1278.

In 1402, Mac Cam Dall Macnamara, lord of Glan-coilean, erected the present monastery, being a beautiful strong building of black marble; his tomb is still remaining. This monastery, with all the manors, advowsons, &c. of Daveunwall, Ichancee, Downagour, and divers others, with the site of all the hereditaments thereof, was granted to Sir Turlough O'Brien, of Innishdyman (Innistymon) in fee, December 14, 1585.

The monastery was repaired in 1604. Bishop Pococke thus describes its present state: "Quin is one of the finest and most entire monasteries that I have seen in Ireland; it is situated on a fine stream, with an ascent of several steps to the church: at the entrance one is surprised with the view of the high altar entire, and of an altar on each side of the arch of the chancel. To the south is a chapel, with three or four altars in it, and a very gothic figure in relief of some saint; on the north side of the chancel is a fine monument of the family of the Macnamaras of Rance, erected by the founder; on a stone by the high altar the name of Kennedye appears in large letters; in the middle, between the body and the chancel, is a fine tower built on the gable ends. The cloister is in the usual form, with couplets of pillars, but is particular in having buttresses round it by way of ornament; there are apartments on three sides of it, the refectory,

Vol. III—No. 5,

the dormitory, and another grand room to the north of the chancel, with a vaulted room under them all; to the north of the large room is a closet, which leads through a private way to a very strong round tower, the walls of which are near ten feet thick. In the front of the monastery is a building, which seems to have been an apartment for strangers, and to the south-west are two other buildings."

Dutton, in his Statistical Survey of the county of Clare, published in 1808, observes, that it remains nearly in the same state as when the bishop wrote, but greatly disfigured by the superstitious custom of burying within the walls of churches. The south end, built by one of the family of Macnamara, is much superior in neatness of workmanship to the adjoining parts. There are the remains of a curious representation of a crucifixion in stucco on the wall near the high altar, that have escaped, I believe, the observation of all travellers.

ACCOUNT OF HIGHLAND ROBBERS.

There is not an instance of any country having made so sudden a change in its morals, as the Hebrides. Security and civilization possesses every part; yet not many years have elapsed since the whole was a den of thieves, of the most extraordinary kind. They conducted their plundering excursions with the utmost policy, and reduced the whole art of theft into a regular system. From habit it lost all the appearance of criminality: they considered it as labouring in their vocation; and when a party was